INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MAJOR, MINOR AND INTERNATIONAL COURSEWORK

The development of an international perspective is a key component in the mission of Belmont University’s College of Business Administration. All BBA degree-seeking students are required to complete an International Business course, and global concepts are discussed in other business classes.

The International Business concentration in the Undergraduate School of Business Administration offers students the opportunity to focus on international considerations. In response to the business community, the International Business Program includes:

- depth within a business discipline (Accounting, Economics, Entrepreneurship, Finance, Information Systems, Management or Marketing)
- international business coursework
- competency in a foreign language
- one semester enrolled in an approved college or university academic program abroad


INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CASE COMPETITION

As a member of the Network of International Business Schools (NIBS), the Center for International Business (CIB) sponsors student participation in the annual NIBS International Case Competition.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SOCIETY (IBS)

The IBS is a professional organization of Belmont University students interested in the field of international business. Members come from various backgrounds and majors but are united by their interests in international business issues and career opportunities.

The IBS fosters greater understanding of international business practices through a variety of meetings and events, including guest speakers, business socials, career workshops, study abroad fairs and field trips to corporate offices and community organizations. Membership is open to all Belmont University students.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS FACULTY DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

The CIB sponsors enrollment in faculty development workshops with an international focus to help business faculty internationalize their teaching and research.

KEY OBJECTIVES

Five main objectives make up the core of Center for International Business programming. These objectives were designed to help prepare our students and the Middle Tennessee business community to “engage and transform the world.”

INTERNATIONALIZE CURRICULUM

PROVIDE EXPERIENCE ABROAD

DEVELOP CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

INCREASE AWARENESS

FACILITATE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS
Having traveled to Guatemala and Haiti, International Business major Hilary Hambrick says she has “seen first-hand the tremendous poverty in our world and the weighty role America has in creating positive globalization.” Through her work with Belmont’s Students in Free Enterprise team, she has helped to provide operational assistance through community partnerships that expand across the world.
“Thinking internationally is no longer an option in today’s business environment; it is a necessity.”

DR. JEFFREY W. OVERBY, DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS

INTERNATIONAL-ORIENTED SERVICE LEARNING
The College of Business Administration has initiated service learning courses in Guatemala, Botswana and South Africa. In Guatemala, students travel to a farming community involved in the fair trade coffee industry. The goal is for students to become engaged in the daily life of the community by participating in the harvest and processing of coffee beans that will be exported to the United States. In Botswana and South Africa, students serve disadvantaged communities while learning about social entrepreneurship. These projects are designed to motivate entrepreneurial economic development initiatives that the Belmont University Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team can support as a sustainable experiential learning project.

BUSINESS-THEMED FOREIGN LANGUAGE COURSES
In addition to encouraging foreign language education by study abroad, the CIB facilitates foreign language education by underwriting foreign language faculty participation in Business Language Workshops for Foreign Language Educators. These workshops serve as a unique forum for the exchange of ideas among the participants.

ACADEMIC WORLDQUEST COMPETITION & PARTNERSHIP WITH TENNESSEE WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL (TN-WAC)
The CIB partners with the TN-WAC to host a variety of events. The TN-WAC is a non-profit, non-partisan organization with an independent board chartered in Tennessee and affiliated with the nation-wide network of 90+ councils and a Washington, D.C.-based “umbrella” organization, the World Affairs Councils of America. The TN-WAC reaches communities and schools across the state with programs such as teacher workshops, teacher study tours abroad, distinguished visiting speaker programs and Academic WorldQuest.

The Academic WorldQuest is an annual knowledge-based competition with questions focusing on international affairs, current events, the global economy, geography, world history, and general knowledge about the world. The competition involves student teams from high schools across the State of Tennessee. The state winners compete at the national level in Washington, D.C. each spring.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONVOCATION SERIES
The CIB hosts a number of lectures and cultural events in the form of an International Business Convocation Series. Each semester, leaders from diverse international business fields and cultural organizations share their experiences and advice with students and the community at large. Convocation speakers have included:

- Dave Berryman, President of Gibson Guitar Corporation
- Erlan A. Idrissov, Ambassador of Kazakhstan
- Ming Wang, Director of the Wang Vision Institute
- Eduardo Minardi, Chief Operating Officer for Bridgestone Americas, and Chairman, CEO and President of Bridgestone Americas Tire Operations
- Larry Harrington, Chief Policy Deputy Tennessee Attorney General and former Executive Director of Inter-American Development Bank in Mexico
- George Staples, Former Director General of the Foreign Service and Ambassador to Cameroon and Equatorial Guinea.

INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS WORKSHOP FOR TEACHERS
The CIB sponsors modules at which high school teachers earn continuing education units (CEUs) while gaining the knowledge they need to incorporate international business concepts into the classroom.

PARTNERSHIP WITH THE INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ACADEMY AT HILLSBORO HIGH SCHOOL
The CIB is a partner with Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS) and the International Business Academy at Hillsboro High School. This partnership is intended to create “A School of Global Awareness” and involves the following activities: 1) career mentorships between Belmont faculty and Hillsboro students; 2) shared professional and career guest speaker events; 3) curriculum development; 4) teacher workshops; and 5) field trips.
The CIB coordinates development and maintenance of business-oriented study abroad opportunities at both the undergraduate and graduate levels. Priority is placed upon study abroad agreements that include business classes in at least one country speaking each language for which Belmont University offers a language major. In addition to "traditional" study abroad locations in Europe, less traditional options are being developed. Current study abroad agreements that include business course offerings include:

- AUSTRALIA  Victoria University, Melbourne
- DENMARK  Copenhagen Business School
- FRANCE  Euromed School of Management
- FRANCE  Normandy Business School
- GERMANY  Cologne University of Applied Sciences
- GERMANY WHU  Otto Beisheim School of Management, Vallendar
- HONG KONG  Lingnan University
- SOUTH KOREA  Sogang University, Seoul

Short-term study abroad experiences led by faculty of the College of Business Administration at Belmont University have included:

- ARGENTINA
- BELGIUM
- BOTSWANA
- BRAZIL
- CHILE
- CHINA
- CZECH REPUBLIC
- DENMARK
- ENGLAND
- GHANA
- GUATEMALA
- INDIA
- IRELAND
- JAPAN
- THE NETHERLANDS
- POLAND
- SLOVAKIA
- SOUTH AFRICA
- SOUTH KOREA
- SPAIN
- TURKEY
- VIETNAM

“The best experiences thus far have been my time spent learning abroad. I feel that it is imperative to have an international outlook, no matter what one wishes to study.”

TIARA RUREY-BOWMAN, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MAJOR, BELMONT UNIVERSITY
DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER SERIES AND INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS SYMPOSIUM
The CIB hosts an annual International Business Symposium and a series of distinguished speakers each year, inviting individuals of high distinction from industry, government and academia to give presentations on timely international business topics.

COMMUNITY TRADE & INVESTMENT EVENTS
The CIB partners with the Nashville Area Chamber of Commerce, through its International Business Council, the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development (TDECD), the Nashville Export Assistance Center, and the Society of International Business Fellows (SIBF) to co-sponsor networking and special trade-related events and speakers. These initiatives increase awareness of the significance of international trade and support increased export activity. These initiatives, at which student attendance is encouraged, help students develop the capacity and skills they need to effectively engage in international business.

INTERNATIONAL TRADE AND INVESTMENT RESEARCH
The CIB provides customized trade and investment research to partner institutions, businesses, and other organizations. This initiative ensures interaction between the local trade and investment community and the academic community, helping to increase trade and investment activities within the Greater Nashville area.

STUDENT-LED CONSULTING
Graduate business students undertake field-based short-term consulting projects for companies to address a current and significant problem identified by each client. Such projects are often conducted in conjunction with international study tours.

STUDENT INTERN SPONSORSHIPS
The CIB helps to connect local organizations and businesses with student interns for projects containing an international business component. These experiences help students to develop greater international awareness and valuable trade skills while providing needed assistance to local businesses and organizations.

GLOBAL NASHVILLE NEWSLETTER
The CIB maintains a website and e-newsletter promoting international business and cultural events in the Greater Nashville area. Members of partner organizations receive CIB communications, and the CIB promotes the programs and activities of partner organizations on its website. These initiatives ultimately facilitate greater awareness of international trade issues, increase attendance at trade events and support increased export activity.

SISTER CITIES OF NASHVILLE (SCN) PARTNERSHIP
As a sponsor of SCN, the CIB hosts delegates from around the world and participates in the annual World of Friendship event.

“International business development in the Nashville area has grown exponentially over the past 10 years. One hundred thirty-five internationally-owned companies have relocated and expanded in our area, creating nearly 12,000 new jobs. Additionally, many local enterprises are centering their growth efforts in international markets.”

EDUARDO MINARDI
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS
CHAIRMAN, CEO & PRESIDENT, BRIDGESTONE AMERICAS TIRE OPERATIONS
CHAIRMAN, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS COUNCIL OF THE NASHVILLE AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
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